Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-14. (Cancelled).

Claim 15. (Currently Amended): A method for eliciting an immune response in a vertebrate subject, said method comprising:

(a) providing [[a]] core ~~carrier~~ carriers coated with vector constructs, where each vector construct carries ~~carrying~~ non-overlapping HSV genomic DNA fragments [[:]]

~~(i) obtained from one or more pathogens;~~

~~(ii) which have at least 80% homology to the genomic fragment of (i); or~~

~~(iii) which are able to hybridize under stringent conditions to the genomic fragments of (ii),~~

wherein the genomic DNA fragments contain an antigen coding sequence and the fragments in each vector construct collectively encode two or more, but not all, of the HSV viral proteins, and wherein the vector constructs are selected from the group consisting of a plasmid comprising [[a]] genomic ~~fragment~~ fragments which are collectively between about 5 kilobases and about 25 kilobases and a cosmid comprising [[a]] genomic ~~fragment~~ fragments which are collectively between about 25 kilobases and about 50 kilobases in size; and

(b) administering the coated core ~~carrier~~ carriers to the subject using a particle-mediated transdermal delivery technique, whereby the ~~antigen~~ antigens encoded by [[a]] the coding ~~sequence~~ sequences present in the genomic DNA ~~is~~ are expressed in the subject in an amount sufficient to elicit an immune response.

Claim 16. (Original): The method of claim 15, wherein expression of coding sequences contained within the genomic DNA fragments is not driven by a heterologous promoter.

Claim 17. (Currently Amended): The method of claim 15, wherein the vector construct is a plasmid and the genomic fragments are collectively between about 5 kilobases and about 25 kilobases in size.

Claim 18-21. (Cancelled).

Claim 22. (Currently Amended): The method of claim 15, wherein the core ~~carrier~~ carriers have ~~has~~ an average diameter of about 0.5 to about 5 μm and a density sufficient to allow delivery into the subject.

Claim 23. (Currently Amended): The method of claim 22, wherein the core ~~carrier~~ carriers are ~~is~~ comprised of a metal.

Claim 24. (Original): The method of claim 23, wherein the metal is gold.

Claim 25. (Original): The method of claim 15, wherein step (b) is repeated to provide a prime and a booster administration.

Claim 26. (Currently Amended): The method of claim 15, wherein the vector construct is a cosmid and the genomic fragments are collectively between about 25 kilobases and about 50 kilobases in size.

Claim 27-30. (Cancelled).

Claim 31. (Currently Amended): The method of claim 26, wherein the core ~~carrier~~ carriers have ~~has~~ an average diameter of about 0.5 to about 5 μm and a density sufficient to allow delivery into the subject.

Claim 32. (Currently Amended): The method of claim 31, wherein the core ~~carrier~~ carriers are ~~is~~ comprised of a metal.

Claim 33. (Original): The method of claim 32, wherein the metal is gold.

Claim 34. (Original): The method of claim 26, wherein step (b) is repeated to provide a prime and a booster administration.

Claim 35-51. (Cancelled).

Claim 52. (New) The method of claim 15, wherein said non-overlapping genomic DNA fragments obtained from HSV have at least 95% homology to natural genomic DNA fragments obtained from HSV.